

CLITHEROE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
1909.

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**Physical Features and General  
Character of the District.**

The town of Clitheroe is situated in North East Lancashire, in the valley of the Ribble, within about half a mile of the boundary of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The various parts of the town are built on and about a ridge of limestone rock at an elevation of from 200 to 300 feet above the level of the sea.

The mean annual temperature is 46.9, and the mean annual rainfall is 47.695 inches.

The prevailing winds are Westerly and South Westerly, but considerable spells of North Easterly winds are experienced at times, and this more particularly during the early months of the year.

On the whole the district is an extremely healthy one.

The area of the Borough is 2381 acres.

•The population at the last census (March, 1901) was 11,414, and the present population has been estimated, for the purposes of the statistics contained in the following Report, at 13,000.

The chief industry of the town is cotton weaving, but the neighbouring lime quarries employ a considerable number of men.

The Railway is the sole means of transit and communication within the district.

The rateable value of the Urban District is £48,420 ; its Income from all sources £26,244 ; Expenditure on improvement works, £2,412 ; total Expenditure, £27,208.

### **House Accommodation.**

On the whole the housing accommodation for the working classes is satisfactory, and in some parts of the town it is good. The chief drawback in this respect is the large number of back to back houses still existing in some districts. Of these there are still 169 remaining, eight having been converted into four double houses during 1909.

In addition there are 68 single houses but these mostly have windows admitting of through ventilation. Twenty-two new houses have been built during the year and plans have been passed for a further 54.

Four cases of overcrowding were dealt with during 1909.

A very large amount of street improvement has been

carried out recently and this cannot fail to be beneficial to the inhabitants of neighbouring dwellings.

### **Sewage and Drainage.**

There are, at the end of 1909, 2979 houses in the Borough, and of this number 2825 are permanently connected with the main sewer. This leaves 154 still unconnected, but of this number about 30 are situated in outlying districts, quite beyond the reach of the present sewage system.

The sewage is treated on the broad land irrigation method, three Bacteria beds being also in use.

### **Excrement Removal.**

The method used is a variety of the tub system, the contents being conveyed without intermediate treatment on to neighbouring farm lands.

This method is, however, largely giving way to water carriage, and 562 fresh water closets, 17 latrines, and 1287 slop water closets are now in use.

153 slop water closets, and 16 fresh water closets have been put into old property during 1909, and 22 slop closets and 23 fresh water closets have been put into new property during the same period.

One Midden Privy has been abolished during the year and fourteen of the remaining twenty-two are in outlying districts, attached to isolated houses.

### **House Refuse.**

This is deposited in tubs, and removed by the Public Authority to tips outside the town. There is no Destructor.

**Water Supply.**

The town is fortunate in this respect. The supply is from Upland Sources, is very soft, and altogether excellent in quality, and it is quite adequate in amount.

**Infectious Diseases.**

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act has been in use since 1890, but the Council have not yet seen their way to supply any Disinfecting Apparatus, much less an Infectious Diseases Hospital.

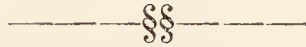
There is however, a small Isolation Hospital for Small-pox, which was provided jointly with the Bowland and Clitheroe Rural District Councils.

After cases of infectious disease, rooms with their contents are exposed to the fumes of burning sulphur, and, whenever thought desirable, infected bedding and clothing are destroyed by burning.

A special pail is provided for the excreta in cases of Typhoid Fever, and these are attended to under the direct supervision of the Inspector of Nuisances.



## VITAL STATISTICS.



### Birth Rate.

The number of births registered during the year was 286. This gives a birth rate of exactly 22 per 1000 per annum of the population. This is the lowest rate since 1900, when the figures were 21.8, and it is .9 below the average of the last 10 years.

Of the births registered, 142 were boys and 144 girls.

The above figures show a continuance in the steady decline of the birth rate which has been noticeable during recent years.

### Death Rate.

174 deaths were registered as occurring within the district, and deducting from this number the deaths of 5 "non-residents" which occurred in the Workhouse, and adding the deaths of 8 "residents" which occurred in Public Institutions outside the district, we get a nett total of 177 deaths actually belonging to the Borough, and this number gives a death rate of 13.6 per 1000 per annum. This is an increase of .9 upon the figures for 1908, when the death rate was an extremely low one, but it is 1.1 below the average of the last ten years.

### Infantile Mortality.

24 deaths occurred of children under one year of age, and this number is equal to a rate of 83 per 1000 births registered. Here, at any rate, we have some cause for congratulation, for these figures have never previously

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS.		Deaths under One Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages Total.		Deaths in Workhouse	Deaths of Non residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10.	11	12	13
1899	11350	264	23'2	34	125	166	14'6	17	5	...	161	14'1
1900	11375	248	21'8	41	165	189	16'6	16	5	...	184	16'1
1901	11400	263	23	43	163	183	16	23	9	...	174	15'2
1902	11450	255	22'2	32	125	177	15'4	26	11	...	166	14'4
1903	11500	274	23'8	36	131	185	16	20	6	2	181	15'6
1904	11550	282	24'4	39	138	199	17'2	18	8	2	193	16'7
1905	11575	259	22'3	26	100	164	14'1	18	3	2	163	14'
1906	11600	258	22'2	34	131	183	15'7	19	7	1	177	15'2
1907	12500	296	23'6	31	104	167	13'3	25	8	8	167	13'3
1908	13000	298	22'9	36	120	175	13'4	28	12	3	166	12'7
Averages for years 1899 1908	11730	269	22'9	35	130	178	15'2	21	7	...	173	14'7
1909	13000	286	22	24	83	174	13'3	19	5	8	177	13'6

\* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

been equalled during the period for which statistics are available, the nearest approach being in 1905 when the Infantile Death Rate was 100. As a matter of fact the average rate for the last ten years is 130, and the rate for the last year alone (1908) was 120.

The chief interest which might have attached at the present moment to this question of Infantile Mortality arises from the fact that during the past year, (at the beginning of June, 1909), the Early Notification of Births Act came into force within the Borough, and one would naturally have been inclined to trace, or to attempt to trace, some connection between the adoption of this Act, and the diminished rate of Infantile Mortality. As a matter of fact I do not think that one would be justified for the moment in drawing any such inference. Apart from the danger of attempting to draw deductions from an insufficient number of data, I am pretty confident that two factors have been at work during the past twelve months which have influenced favourably the Infantile Mortality in Clitheroe, and I shall be much surprised if the truth of this surmise is not reflected in a diminished rate of Infantile Mortality throughout the whole of the manufacturing districts of Lancashire. I allude to the cool, wet summer, and the scarcity of employment. Two of the largest items which go to swell the totals in Infantile Mortality Returns are the deaths from Premature Births, and Diarrhoeal Diseases, the latter arising from the artificial feeding of infants.

Beyond question employment up to a late period in the mills spells liability to premature labour, and I am inclined too to think that work in the mills increases the



TABLE II.

Names of Localities.		Clitheroe.				Clitheroe Proper Including Workhouse				Low Moor.			
Year.		Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year
1899	..	11350	264	161	34	10500	255	151	32	850	9	10	2
1900	..	11375	248	184	41	10525	242	170	40	„	6	14	1
1901	..	11400	263	174	43	10550	244	162	42	„	19	12	1
1902	..	11450	255	166	32	10600	243	157	30	„	12	9	2
1903	..	11500	274	181	36	10650	261	164	35	„	13	7	1
1904	..	11550	282	193	39	10700	264	174	35	„	18	19	4
1905	..	11575	259	163	26	10725	244	154	25	„	15	9	1
1906	..	11600	258	177	34	10750	241	165	31	„	17	12	3
1907	..	12500	296	167	31	11650	279	154	30	„	17	13	1
1908	..	13000	298	166	36	12125	282	152	30	875	16	14	6
Averages of Years 1899 to 1908.		11730	269	173	35	10877	255	160	33	852	14.2	11.9	2.2
1909	..	13000	286	177	24	12125	263	168	23	875	23	9	1



TABLE III.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases notified in whole district.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality	
	At all ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up-wards.	Clitheroe Proper.	Low Moor.
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria(including Membranous croup)	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..
Erysipelas .. ..	3	..	1	..	..	2	..	3	..
Scarlet fever .. ..	56	..	7	41	5	3	..	56	..
Typhus fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever .. ..	4	..	..	1	1	2	..	4	..
Relapsing fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever .. ..	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..
Plague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	67	..	8	43	8	8	..	67	..

TABLE IV.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths in Localities (at all ages)		Deaths in Public Institution, Work-house.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Clitheroe proper.	Low Moor.	
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Scarlet Fever.....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(Typhus .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever { Enteric .....	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..
(Other continued .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza .....	7	..	..	..	..	3	4	7	..	..
Cholera .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa .....	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Enteritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .....	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..
Erysipelas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) .....	16	..	1	3	..	10	2	15	1	3
Other Tubercular diseases .....	11	1	2	..	3	3	2	11	..	..
Cancer, malignant „ .....	13	..	..	..	..	8	5	13	..	2
Bronchitis.....	14	2	..	..	..	4	8	13	1	3
Pneumonia .....	11	..	1	1	..	8	1	10	1	..
Pleurisy .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver .....	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	..	..
Venereal diseases .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Diseases and accidents of parturition .....	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..
Heart diseases.....	15	2	..	1	..	6	6	12	3	1
Accidents .....	6	1	..	..	..	3	2	6	..	..
Suicides.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
All other causes .....	62	9	3	1	..	14	35	59	3	..
All causes.....	177	24	8	9	4	66	66	168	9	19

TABLE V.

*Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.*

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	{ Certified .....	7	..	..	2	9	2	2	1	1	..	5	1	2	1	..	24
	{ Uncertified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chicken-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Diphtheria : Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
	Diarrhoea, all forms .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	4
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Premature Birth .....	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wasting Diseases	Congenital Defects .....	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
	Injury at Birth .....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Want of Breast Milk .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Atrophy, Debility } Marasmus .....	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Tuber. Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Diseases	Tuber. Peritonitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tabes Mesenterica .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rickets .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Convulsions .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
	Bronchitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Laryngitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Pneumonia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Suffocation, overlying .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other causes .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
		7	..	..	2	9	2	2	1	1	..	5	1	2	1	..	24



liability to difficult labour from abnormal presentations, etc. When work and wages are good women are tempted to stay up to the last possible moment in the factories, and the result is a considerable percentage of premature births. During 1909 these births in Clitheroe numbered only two, against seven in 1908, and nine in 1907.

Again, when trade is good, mothers are anxious to get back to work shortly after confinement, and the infants are put out to nurse. This of course entails artificial feeding with its inevitable train of deaths from Diarrhoeal Diseases, the danger being considerably enhanced during hot, dry weather, and possibly too, when the artificial food is prepared by someone other than the actual mother of the child. In 1909 the Infantile deaths from Diarrhoeal Diseases in Clitheroe numbered only four, against an average of seven for the previous four years.

It may come as a somewhat revolutionary suggestion, but I believe that the operative classes of Lancashire would be better off in the truest sense of the word if the employment in the factories of married women with children were prohibited, nor do I think that they would suffer much financially from such prohibition.

The following particulars may be of interest: From June to December, 1909, inclusive, during which period the Early Notification of Births Act was in operation, 168 births were registered as having occurred in the Borough but during the same period Early Notification was received in only 91 cases. Forty-five of these cases were notified by Midwives, and forty-six by Medical Men, and in thirty seven of these latter forty-six cases, the notification was accompanied by an intimation that the visits of the Nurse



were not required. This left 54 cases for reference to the District Nurse, and to these cases 206 visits had been paid up to the end of the year, an average of 3.8 visits to each case.

It will be obvious from the foregoing that this is a matter which calls for the further consideration of the Health Committee.

### **Zymotic Death Rate.**

During the year 12 deaths were attributed to the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz : Small-pox ; Scarlet Fever ; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ; Fever—Typhus, Typhoid and continued ; Measles ; Whooping Cough, and Diarrhoea. The 12 deaths were made up as follows : Measles, 1 ; Scarlet Fever, 1 ; Whooping Cough, 3 ; Diphtheria, 1 ; Typhoid Fever, 2 ; and Diarrhoea, 4. This number equals a Zymotic Death Rate of .92 per 1000 per annum of the population, and is slightly below the average of the last seven years.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

Reference to Table III. shows that 67 cases of Infectious Disease were reported during the year under notice. This is considerably below the number for 1908 but it is an increase upon the average for the last few years.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

Scarlet Fever, as usual, is responsible for the large majority of Infectious ailments, but the cases fortunately were upon the whole of a mild character.

Table VI. shows that for many years Scarlet Fever has been practically endemic in the town.

TABLE VI.

Year.	Number of Cases Notified.	Number of Deaths.	Rate of Case Mortality.
1890	140	6	4.2
1891	85	7	8.2
1892	65	6	9.2
1893	175	10	5.7
1894	12	2	13.2
1895	17	3	17.
1896	3	nil.	nil.
1897	7	nil.	nil.
1898	14	nil.	nil.
1899	36	1	2.9
1900	47	1	2.1
1901	118	6	5
1902	52	2	3.5
1903	16	2	12.5
1904	34	nil.	nil.
1905	15	1	6.6
1906	19	1	5.2
1907	11	nil.	nil.
1908	97	2	1.9
Average of 19 years.	50	2.6	5.1
1909	56	1	1.7

**Measles.**

The town has been comparatively free from this disease during the year, and only one death resulted.

On the other hand there was a considerable epidemic of German Measles during March and April, which entailed the closure of the Infant Departments of all the Schools in Clitheroe for an extra week at the Easter vacation.

This epidemic reached Low Moor in July and the Infant Department of that School was closed from July 16th to July 23rd, the latter date marking the commencement of the Midsummer Holidays.

### **Enteric Fever.**

Four cases of this disease were notified during the year and two of them ended fatally.

### **Erysipelas.**

Three cases of Erysipelas occurred during the year.

### **Diphtheria.**

Two reports of this disease were received, but only in one of them, was the diagnosis verified by bacteriological examination. In neither case was there any spread of the infection.

### **Phthisis.**

16 deaths occurred from Pulmonary Consumption during the year, and 11 from "other Tubercular Affections," giving death rates of 1.2, and .8 respectively, or a total death rate of 2.07 per 1000 per annum from Tubercular Diseases. This is a slight increase on the average of previous years.

### **Puerperal Fever.**

Two reports of this disease were received and both ended fatally.

One case occurred in the practice of a Midwife, the other case following upon an Abortion.

### **Factories and Workshops Act.**

There are 20 Factories in the Borough, including five Stone Quarries, where mechanical power is used and over 40 persons employed, and there are 43 places where mechanical power is used and under 40 persons employed. This latter figure is a decrease of 2 upon 1908.

There are 73 Workshops where no mechanical power is used, and there are 36 Domestic Workshops. This gives a total of 172 places which come within the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act. Eight new Workshops have been registered during the year, two with mechanical power, and six without.

All are regularly inspected, and eight notices of defects were served during the year, all of which were satisfactorily complied with.

A register of Workshops is kept, and also proper lists of outworkers, and the houses of the latter are periodically inspected.

### **Bakehouses.**

There are 25 Bakehouses in the Borough, and none are classed as "underground." Two notices to limewash and one to provide better ventilation were served, and all were complied with.

### **Cow Sheds and Dairies.**

There are 40 Cow Sheds with accommodation for about 540 cattle. They are kept clean and are satisfactorily drained, but some of them are deficient in light, air space and ventilation.

The Dairies all appear to be in a satisfactory condition



**Slaughter Houses.**

The new Slaughter Houses are still only partially occupied, and six private Slaughter Houses are still in use. Two notices to limewash were found necessary in the case of these latter.

A summary of the work done under the Factory and Workshops Act will be found in the accompanying Tables.

# Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Work-places and Homework.

## 1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	70	7	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	50	2	0
Workplaces .. .. .	22	3	0
Total .. .. .	142	12	..

## 2.—DEFECTS.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspect'r	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness .. .. .	2	2	..	..
Want of ventilation.. .. .	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances .. .. .	7	7	..	..
Sanitary accommodation	insufficient .. .. .	2	2	..
	defective .. .. .	..	..	..
	not separate .. .. .	..	..	..
	for sexes .. .. .	1	1	..
<i>Offences under Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other Offences .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Total .. .. .	12	12	..	..

### 3.—HOMEWORK.

NATURE OF WORK.		OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.				Number of Inspections of Outworkers premises.
		Twice in the year.		Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.		
		Lists.	Outworkers.			
		Contractors	Workmen.			
Wearing Apparel—						
(1) making, &c.	.. ..	7	7	9	2	12
(2) cleaning and washing	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Lace, lace curtains and nets	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Furniture and Upholstery	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Fur pulling	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Umbrellas	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Paper Bags and Boxes	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Brush Making	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Stuffed Toys	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
File Making	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Electro Plate	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Cables and Chains	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Anchor and Grapnels	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Cart Gear	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Locks, Latches and Keys	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	.. ..	7	7	9	2	12

## 4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		Number.
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here	With mechanical Power and over 40 persons..	20
	With Mechanical Power and under 40 persons	43
	No Mechanical Power .. .. .	73
	Domestic .. .. .	36
	Total number of workshops on Register ..	172

## 5.—OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS.	Number.
<i>Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—</i>	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) .. .. .	1
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	5
Notified by H.M. Inspector ..	5
Reports of (action taken sent	5
Other .. .. .	..
<i>Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :</i>	
Certificates granted during the year .. .. .	..
In use at the end of the year .. .. .	..



# REPORT OF MR. THOS. DAVIES, NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

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Inspector of Nuisances' Office,

Church Street, January 1st, 1910.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Seventeenth Annual Report of the work done in my Department during the year ending December 31st, 1909.

## Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act.

The following will show the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year, with the number of houses in which the cases have occurred :—

Scarlet Fever.....56 cases in 42 houses.

Typhoid Fever ..... 4       ,,       4       ,,

Erysipelas ..... 3       ,,       3       ,,

Puerperal ..... 2       ,,       2       ,,

Diphtheria ..... 2       ,,       2       ,,

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Making a total of .....67       ,,       53       ,,

The previous year there were 110 cases in 86 houses.

After the termination of the cases each house is fumigated with sulphur, and afterwards thoroughly cleansed.

Several articles of clothing, beds, bedding, carpets, rugs, toys, books and mats have been destroyed by fire after fever cases.

Three lots of bedding have been destroyed by fire after cases of Consumption.

In all Infected Houses where books are borrowed from the Free Library, the books are taken and disinfected before they are returned to the Library, and every precaution is taken to prevent the cases from spreading.

We have distributed during the year to various persons for disinfecting purposes, 360 gallons of Disinfecting Liquor and 37 cwt. of Disinfecting Powder.

## Nuisances.

The work done under this heading may be summarised as follows :—

Nuisances in the Books.....	242
Notices and Letters sent to abate	
Nuisances .....	27
Nuisances abated without Notices .....	215
Nuisances in the Books unabated.....	3

The following will show the nature of the Nuisances abated :—

- 42 Choked Top Water Drains opened and cleaned.  
44 Choked Slop Water Drains opened and cleaned.  
18 Choked Latrines opened and cleaned.  
8 Choked Fresh Water Closets opened and cleaned.  
6 Choked Gulleys opened and cleaned.  
2 Choked Soil Pipes opened and cleaned.  
4 Choked Cellar Drains opened and cleaned.  
61 Choked Tippers opened and cleaned.

- 11 Broken Tippers repaired.
- 3 Broken Slop-stone pipes repaired.
- 3 Dilapidated Closets repaired.
- 7 Broken Bog Hole Doors repaired.
- 12 Dirty Closets cleaned.
- 4 Dirty Houses cleaned.
- 7 Dirty Backyards cleaned.
- 1 Lot of Pigeons removed from Dwelling.
- 1 Lot of Poultry removed from Backyard.
- 9 Decomposed Carcases taken from the Brook.

The Bog Holes in 65 streets have been cleaned and disinfected.

The Open Sewers in Whalley Road and Duck Street have been cleaned.

One Old Midden Privy has been abolished thus reducing the number from 23 to 22, 14 of the remaining Middens are in the outlying parts of the district, where the population is thin and scattered.

42 Vans used as dwellings attending the Fairs from various parts of the country, have been inspected and found clean and free from sickness.

Four cases of overcrowding have been attended to and remedied during the year.

267 Tubs for house refuse have been replaced during the year and 254 Excreta Pails.

There are 2697 Tubs for house refuse and 1456 Excreta Pails in use.

There are 562 Fresh Water Closets, 17 Latrines and 1287 Slop Water Closets in use.

889 Slop Water Closets have been put in old property since the Corporation adopted the system in 1894, and 398 in new property.

153 Slop Water Closets have been put in old property this year and 22 in new property.

16 Fresh Water Closets have been put in old property this year and 23 in new property.

Eight Back to Back houses have been converted to through houses thus reducing the number of Back to Back houses from 177 to 169.

There are 68 Single Houses and most of these have windows at the back, thus giving the means of having a through current of air.

There are seven houses in their present condition not fit for human habitation.

We estimate the number of houses at the end of the year at 2979, out of this number 2825 are connected to the main sewer, leaving 154 to be connected. Out of the 154 about 30 of them are in the outlying district and beyond our present sewage system.

22 New Houses have been built during the year and there are 40 in course of erection, and plans passed for 54 more.

We estimate the population at the end of the year at 13,450.

The work of laying branch sewers and connecting the houses to the same is still being carried on.

Ventilating shafts are put up at the end of all branch sewers.



The main and branch sewers are periodically flushed

The Corporation are still pushing on the paving and sewerage of the Back Streets, and converting the closets from the pail system to the water carriage system.

There are eight public Urinals in the town, but the Waterloo, Bawdlands and Woone Lane districts are greatly in need of urinal accommodation.

### Refuse Removal.

The quantity of refuse collected during the year was as follows :—

House refuse from Tubs taken to the Tip at	
Horrocksford .....	2642 loads
Nightsoil from Midden Privies taken to the	
Tip at Henthorn .....	36 loads.
Rubbish from Back Streets taken to the Tip at	
Horrocksford .....	20 loads.
Sundries .....	50 loads.
Excreta from Pails taken on to the land of	
various farms in the district.....	871 loads.
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Making a total of .....	3619 loads.

The work of collecting the house refuse is gradually increasing.

We have transferred one of the men from the night staff to the day staff for three days a week.

### Smoke Nuisance.

I have taken several observations of the smoke emitted from the various Mill Chimneys during the year, and the longest period during which dense black smoke was emitted in one hour was 14 minutes.

We have no time limit in force in the Borough.

### **Bakehouses.**

There are 25 registered Bakehouses in the Borough which are frequently inspected, they are well adapted for the purpose and are kept clean.

Notices were given in two instances, one to lime-wash and one to provide better ventilation, both notices were complied with.

With these exceptions I have had no complaints to make during the year.

### **Shop Hours Act.**

There are 24 places that come under this Act, I have no violation of the Act to report.

I have supplied Abstracts of the Act to several of these places during the year.

### **Cow Sheds and Dairies.**

There are 40 registered Cow Sheds with accommodation for about 540 head of cattle.

These places are visited periodically and as far as cleanliness is concerned we have no complaints to make.

Some of them are still defective as regards light, ventilation and air space.

### **Slaughter Houses.**

There are six Private Slaughter Houses in use in the Borough, they are periodically inspected, they are well conducted and generally kept clean.

Notice was given in two instances to lime-wash and the notices were complied with.

The New Public Slaughter Houses at Foulisykes are occupied by five butchers out of the 14 butchers in the town.

Seven butchers slaughter in the Private Slaughter Houses and two slaughter outside the Borough.

There is accommodation at the New Public Slaughter Houses for all the butchers in the town.

With regard to the quality of the meat prepared at these places we have had no complaint to make during the year.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There is one Common Lodging House in the Borough registered under three heads, with accommodation for 187 persons.

The average attendance per night during the year has been about 102 persons of both sexes.

There are also furnished apartments in connection with this house to accommodate about 40 persons

The house is owned by a Company with a manager in charge, several improvements have been made at the house during the year.

The premises are kept clean and well conducted. We have had no serious violation of the Bye-laws to report during the year.

### **Factory and Workshops Act.**

There are 20 Factories including the five Stone Quarries where mechanical power is used and over 40 persons

employed, and 43 where mechanical power is used and under 40 persons employed, there are 73 Workshops where no mechanical power is used, and 36 Domestic Workshops, making a total of 172 places that come under Factory and Workshops' Act of 1901.

Eight places have been registered as Workshops during the year, two with mechanical power and six without. These places are visited periodically, they are kept clean and not overcrowded, and the sanitary accommodation is in good condition.

Eight Notices were served on occupiers during the year to remedy certain defects and in each case the notices were complied with.

Gentlemen, I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS DAVIES,

Inspector of Nuisances.